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 CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY REPORT NO.

# INFORMATION REPORT

COUNTRY China

DATE DISTR. 8 September 1948

SUBJECT Economic Information: Movement of Goods from  
Tientsin to Communist Territory

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## Purchase of Medical Supplies

1. A British doctor came to Tientsin recently from Communist-occupied territory and purchased about three crates of medical supplies. He then went to Chinese Customs and asked for a customs clearance certificate to enable him to take the supplies back to Communist territory.
2. When questioned, the doctor stated that he had come from Communist territory on bicycle, unmolested, and that he expected to return with the supplies by cart. He said that primarily he considered his job was to treat sick Chinese, and if Communists happened to be among his patients, treating them was part of his job.
3. Customs subsequently informed the doctor that they had no objection to clearing the medical supplies, but that Garrison Headquarters objected. The doctor then stated that the Communists would pick up the supplies in the garden of the house (in Tientsin) in which he was living. A night or two later the three large crates disappeared from the garden, presumably having been taken by Communist representatives for shipment to destination.

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## Purchase of Paper

4. Paper has become scarce on the Tientsin market. Some weeks prior to 1 June Communist representatives, presumably unmolested, purchased and took away sixty large bales of eighty-pound paper (the kind on which the local currency is printed).

## Beef Purchases for Silver

5. Communists in Shantung Province are thought to be acquiring considerable metal currency through the sale of beef to Tientsin. The fact that these sales are for silver may be the cause for the rise in the (?CNY) price of beef within the past three weeks.

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